

FY21 LAND and PARC Grant Workshop Questions and Answers

For the PARC grant 35,000 population requirement for a town to apply for the \$400,000 grant award maximum, must that number come from the 2010 Census or can it come from the American Community Survey?

The American Community Survey is a well-regarded survey method and may be used in place of the 2010 Census.

Will the grant workshop Power Point be shared?

Yes, it will be posted on both the LAND and PARC grants' websites.

How many copies of the appraisals are needed, and in what form?

One hard copy of the appraisal is needed.

Can you confirm that the LAND and PARC grants cannot be used for passive recreation improvements (for instance, using a LAND grant to build a boardwalk)?

LAND grants cannot be used to make recreational improvements. PARC grants can be used to construct boardwalks, but only on land dedicated to park purposes. Land and Water Conservation Fund grants can be used to construct boardwalks on conservation land, however.

Our town has an OSRP drafted, using only survey results for our public participation. Public forums have been delayed due to the Corona virus. Can we submit the draft plan as a part of a grant application, with the expectation that public forums and input will be conducted and possible edits done to the plan after the grant deadline?

Due to the current COVID-19 situation and limitations on public gatherings, we will accept OSRPs that have more limited public participation than in the past. However, it will be a condition of final reimbursement of a potential grant award that a more robust public participation process occurs when it is possible. During the present time, however, it is reasonable to presume that a community conduct an online survey.

In the case of a larger project, is it possible to apply for the first phase of a project?

Yes. However, if this first phase is funded, it does not guarantee funding for any future phase of the project.

How old can an appraisal be and still meet the grant requirements?

Appraisals must have an effective date no earlier than one year prior to the grant application deadline.

When is the deadline for DCS to receive a successful municipal vote?

By the end of the calendar year, but we may be able to be flexible this year due to the corona virus. For more specifics, please be in touch with Nathaniel Thomas for LAND grant projects and Melissa Cryan for PARC grant projects.

Can the vote be taken at a special Town Meeting or does it have to be an Annual Town Meeting?

A special Town Meeting vote satisfies the grant requirements.

Do Conservation Restrictions have to be recorded on CPA funded properties prior to the grant application deadline?

No, this is a final reimbursement requirement for grantees.

If a PARC development grant will be funded with CPA funds, is a CR required to be recorded on the land?

No, CRs are only required for land that is being acquired with the assistance of CPA, not for park development.

Does the electronic submittal of the LAND grant have to include just the parcel's shapefile or all the GIS files used for the maps to illustrate its natural resource values (i.e. BioMap, farm soils, climate resiliency, etc.)?

The electronic submittal needs to include just the parcel's shapefile, but should include copies of the completed maps that are requested in the BID document.

Can the appraisal done for the property owner be submitted as the second appraisal?

We do not require a second appraisal. However, for any appraisals submitted with the grant application, the Applicant or one of the Applicant's project partners must be the client, not the landowner.

About what percent of Small Town grants did you fund in the past?

We have funded anywhere from 80-100% of Small Town grant applicants.

If we applied last year and were not funded, is it possible to see where the application was deficient in how it was rated?

Yes, contact us for more information.

If an applicant's OSRP expires in October, would this prevent us from applying or receiving a potential award?

No. Since the grant deadline is July 15 and the plan expires in October, the applicant will still be eligible for grants at the time of the deadline.

Do Small Town grants follow the same application process as the others?

Yes, they just compete against only the other Small Town grant applications.